

~~TOP SECRET~~  
~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

NSC BRIEFING

24 June 1954

INDOCHINA

25X1X6

I. [REDACTED] paints dismal delta picture.

A. Inevitable withdrawal French corps.

1. Consensus 35 French officers similar.
2. Preparations withdrawal under way -- bulldozing beaching points Haiphong.
3. Hanoi-Haiphong LOC open only two to three hours daily; evacuation Hanoi would force abandonment depot stocks amounting to 600 train loads.

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II. [REDACTED] considers Viet Minh  
capable all-out attack any time  
after 1 July.

A. Thinks, however, more probable  
after 15 September for following  
reasons:

1. Enemy can significantly  
improve its delta  
position during next few  
months at small cost.
2. Battle corps has replace-  
ments needing training.
3. Minimum two months'  
preparations usually  
made before major attacks.

B. Believes, however, if enemy sees  
improvement civilian morale or  
probable internationalization  
of war it would immediately  
commit battle corps for early